

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the paragraphs that appear at page 3, line 5, through page 4, line 5, with the following:

--According to one aspect of the present invention, there is provided an image output apparatus including an image generator, a controller and an image forming unit. The image generator generates bitmap data based upon page description language transmitted from a host computer. The controller receives the bitmap data generated by the image generator and transmits the data to an image forming unit, which records an image on a recording medium based upon the bitmap data. The controller judges that an error has occurred in the image generator if an instruction that has been transmitted to the image generator is not responded to in a predetermined period of time, and when it detects an occurrence of an error, issues to the image generator an order to execute an initialization or a reset. Also, when an error has been detected, the image forming unit proceeds with an operation in progress without executing initialization and without executing reset.

According to other aspects of the present invention, the controller issues the order to the image generator to execute initialization or to reset, in response to an instruction to initialize or to reset, entered via a display unit, or in another aspect, the controller, in the event of detecting the occurrence of an error in the image generator, halts communication with the image generator and notifies an operator of occurrence of the error by a display or sound before issuing the order to execute initialization or reset.--.